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THURS'DAY, MAY 28, 1901. THE BRITISH CENSUS.

The Registrar-General has now given out a sufficiently elaborate statement of the British census returns to enable us to trace the lines of progress and decay in the sister islands during the last decade. It is a repetition of the old story. The lines are all familiar. England, Wales and Scotland have gone on along the path of advancement. Ireland continues on the down grade, with hardly any slackening of speed. From Haydn's Dictionary of Dates we take the figures below of Irieh population in modern days, which the period since the Legislative Union of 1801 may be fairly designated. Ireland before the Union had a population well in the neighborhood of 10, 000,000 The rebellion of 1798 9 cost 150,000 Irish lives, whilst the recording angel alone has kept the ter rible record of the Cromwellian permoution. The first counting of the Irish people after the Union appers to have taken place in 1841. We give the figures from that year onward:

| 1841 | 8,196 597 |
|------|-------------|
| 1851 | 6 574,278 |
| 1861 | 5 798.967 |
| 1871 | 5 ,402 ,759 |
| | 4,800,000 |
| | 4,706;162 |
| | 4,456,546 |
| / | |

The figures for 1901 are from the Registrar General's returns sabled to the daily papers of Tuesday of this week. The cable correspondent adds: "This is a decrease _1 5 8 per cent. This is less than during the previous

The cable correspondent apparently knows how to make figures lie. In ectual numbers the decline in the population of Ireland has been greater. in the period of 1891-01 than in that of 1881 91 by over 150,000 persons. Upon whatever basis the percentage is calculated, the stated result is a falsification of the official figures before us.

In the period of sixty years under review the Irish people have prospered and multiplied in every land under the sun except their own. And still Lord Selisbury only a few days ago made the harshest speech that has ever been hurled against the Irish people by an English statesman. The bad impression which that speco made may have moved the king to undertake an early visit to Ireland, as the cable from Dublin announces this week in the following words:-

"Earl Cadogan, the Lord Lieutenant, has made an authorisative announcement of King Edward's wish to visit Irelaud as soon as possibles. He further said that nobody takes a greater or more statesmanlike interest in the well-fare of Irelaud than the King, and he added that he was able to personally testify to His Majesty's desire during his reign to do all he can to promote the prosperity of the country. The Earl also asserted that the true Irish policy now was to attract the people from the now was to attract the people from the country districts into the towns, so that industries might be developed."

Earl Cadogan has certainly shown his own desire to use his influence and authority wisely in Ireland; but the King will find that as long as statesmen of Lord Saliebury's incurable prejudice insist upon believing the Irish unfit for the working out of their own salvation, so long will Ireland go down to further misery under the unnatural hand of alien government.

To return to the ecneus figures, we find that Scotland is now almost on an equality of nopulation with Ireland, having 4 471,557 people, while the population of England and Wales has incressed from 29,001,018 in 1891 to 32,525,716 in 1901.

A XLCI SSARY WORD.

It is through no desire to be censerious that THE REGISTER refers to The Irish Canadian's excited defence last week of Mr. William O'Brien's paper, the seizure of which, in Dablin and other Icish cities, is held by our contemporary to be a proof of tyranny, and "a link in the long chain of outrages which shall eventually lead to the plagues," etc. Mr. O'Brien's " Irish People" has done splendid and most effective work for the national organination in Ireland; but the article which provoked this seizure was quite beside human reason, not to speak of respect for religion and authority. Any defence of .nch au article here in Canada is in reality vain, inasmuch as it reflects no shadow or note of public opinion; but it may turn out very injurious on the part of our contemporary by misuse in the hands of clever and designing persons. No argument is required to establish the necessity of having the latter objection publicly stated without loss of time. The Catholic Union and Times. of Buffalo, and a paper well entitled to speak for the Irish Catholics of the United States, very clearly expresses this necessity even with regard to Catholics who are not British subjects when it says :

If the assault made on the King and If the assault made on the Aing and the Cardinal were not condemned by Catholics and Irishmen, the Protest ants of Great Britain and the rest of the world would get the impression that the Catholic Church tolerated insults to the civil power and that the cause of Ireland was bound up with the indeest correspond to personal the indecont expressions of personal contempt for the Fuglish sovereign. The consequence of this impression would be that those Protestants would have their prejudices against the Catholic religion intensified and their hostility to Irish interests renewed. The editorial of the Dublin paper was worse than a blunder—It was a crime.

A SIGNIFICANT CONTRAST.

Some interesting facts are pointed out in the report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction for Quebec, referred to in another column. The thing that will strike most of us, however, is the decline in the number of pupils attending the Protestant Separate Schools of the adjoining province. In a recent issue we pointed out the decline in the number of pupils attending the Public Schools in Ontario. As against this sympathetic falling off in the general attendance of the Protestant children, the Catholic schools in Ontario, like those in Quebec, are experiencing a steady growth. Some time ago one of our contemporaries asked us to discover the true explanation of the contrast provided by the two sets of schools. That may not be done lightly or without the most careful enquiry; but the facts as they appear are certainly calculated to attract keen attention.

AN "ECCE HOMO" IN DERRY.

A North of Ireland Orangeman visiting England happened to her the name of the Pope referred to with marked respect in a company of Pretestant friends. He was silent, bit somewhat impressed. Presently scoeone asked him what his opinior wis. "Is it the Pope," he answare, downtfully: " well, his reputation is not so high around Portadown." It is not a far cry from Portadow to Darry, and sa a report publishe on our second page would indice, the two places are on all cars oinging to their local promoses. A lady member of the Derry Board of Guardians, by way of a loyal memoral to the late Queen Victoria, proposed to place an "Ecce Homo" on the prkhouse walls. But the Darry "guidians" would have none of it. By overwhelming re-solution they deered it "securism," and even refused onst their Protest ant eyes upon il although assured that Queen Victo passed from life with her eyes fasted upon the picture which she ken a her bedroom. There are any numeral strange true stories of this kind a nnection with northern Irish towis. When Kensit was in Balfast last tar bowed some of his seed on fat gound. One of his disciples disturbed ine set oe in St. George's (Protestani) obure one day by calling out aloud "Popery opery." when the Apostles Creed w being read.

The action of the Darry B. of Guardians will strike every rea, of THE REGISTER with all the more n. der when they look upon the been, premiums are the best reproducties Catholies do not quite relieb from the original famous paintings his, and The Catholie Times gives

attainable by the most modern appliances of art printing. The work is all done in Germany, the home par excellence of art printing to-day. There is nothing of equal merit and cost pro duced elsewhere. THE REGISTER is making an unparalleled offer to paidin-advance subscribers.

UNHAPPY ITALY.

Once quiet, and always beautiful, Italy is gaining a world wide notoriety for lawlessness. The best informed visitors to the country blams the Gov erament, under which it is prophesied, content can never reign. The newspaper organs of the Government are growing alarmed over the attention which the perturbed condition of the country is receiving, and the Tribuns undertakes to state that the news printed in English and American papers is all false. A correspondent of The London Standard denies in turn the assertious of the Tribuna, and says :

The series of robbories and murders that meets the eye of paterfamilias at his breakfast table in Italy is of the most barefaced description. From Romagua and the South, from Leghorn and Massa Carrara in the North, and gentle Tuscany, the tale of cowardly murder is eyer the same. Florence itself, once quietest of sleepy hollows, has become alon of robbers and assassins to such as den of robbers and assessing to such an extent that the subject formed the tonic extent that the subject formed the topic about a fortuight ago, of a public parliamentary debate. Rome swarms with a plethora of police, taken from other cities to their manifest disadvantage, and other tourist centres are undermanned in their police departments, and could be to the country of a continual cause. writhe in the hands of oriminal gange. The fact is, and the sooner the Government wakes up to it the better, the whole country is seetling with discontent and suppressed rebellion—taxation and cruel, crushing starvation, stalks abroad, while the prisons vomit for the their swarms of polluted criminals, amnestied on every pretext in a way that makes one think of a Gilbert and Sullivan opera. And the cry is "Yet they come," for an approaching happy event in the Royal family is to fix the date for turning loose another tatch of cut-throats to prey on this luckless lolk.

If Italy were not a Catholic sountry. writhe in the hands of criminal gange.

If Italy were not a Catholic country, the misgovernment which is responsible for the deplorable conditions above described would long before this have driven the population into revolution.

MR CHAMBERLAIN'S DED

Mr. Joseph Chamberlain's political couch these days is no bed of roses. If made of the softest down a would not be a pleasar! place, hauned con-Jameson raid. Mr. Umybeare, ex M.P., speaking in the Falham Town hall last week mole the following declaration : "A certain Tory member Parliament,

"A certain Tory member Parliament, by name Lyttleton," proceeded Mr.Conybeare, "was out in Mashonaland not long since, and he had a conversation with Mr. Rhodes who, of course, was the prime mover and engineer of the Raid. They were talking about the question of the complicity of Joseph Chamberlain, and Mr. Rhodes said sukrely and bluntly, as is his wont, Joseph Chamberlain knew everything that went on; he was up to his neck in averything appertaining to the question everything appertaining to the question of the raid." Mr. Lyttleton said: " Mr. Bhodes, this is a very strong charge to bring against a public man, a statesman, pring against a public man, a statesman, in the position of Mr. Chamberlain. Have I your permission to repeat it?" Mr. Rhodes said, "Certainly you have." When Mr. Lyttleton came back he placed the facts as he received them placed and races as ne received, subset from Mr. Rhodes before Lord Salisbury, who, I am informed, had Joseph Chamberlain, his heachmen and lieutsmant in the Cabinet, confronted with Mr. Lyttleton, in his presence, and the only answer Chamberlain had to make to this demning accusation was to him out damning accusation was to him out against Cecil Rhodes, 'Traitor! traitor!' making authority, is a fact. I am not the statement on my own authority, because I was not there, but no responsible authority. I state it as a fact, and I hope that the prople of this country will grasp it, and ponder it, and bring it bome to the man who is the one great guilty field, who has brought this war about."

While charges of this kind are publisly made by responsible men against a member of his Majesty's Government, Great Britain must be the loser by the Boer war, no matter though every Boer man, woman and child in South Africa be put to death.

STRANGE CASE OF LORD O'BRIEN.

The deputation of English Catholies to the King has already been the subject of so much discussion that it is high time it was allowed to pass in to history. However, the redoubtable "Lord O Brien of Kilfenore," whom the most dignified of English papers have, in the most natural and habitual manner, alluded to as "Peter the Packer," has managed to project the shadow of his own greatness upon the subject, colipsing at once the King, the Cardinal and all others premiums are the best reproducties. The concerned. Some of the English

voice to their disgust. Here is an ex tract from its editorial comment:

"The Times states that 'Lord O'Brien, Lord Chief Justice of Iroland, was prevented by pressure of other business from forming part of the deputation.' We protest most emphatically against the assumption that he has any right or title to come forward as a representative of the Oatholies of England. We never read of any public service he has rendered to the Catholie Church, but we have read a great deal strvice he has rendered to the Catholic Church, but we have read agreed deal of his success in packing juries to the exclusion of Catholics. Only on the day immediately prior to the deputition The Daily News, referring to his conduct during the hearing of an application for an attachment order, owing to comments on jury-packing, said:—'Lord O'Brien, formerly known as Peter the Packer, does not command the respect of the Irish popple.' We do not know who inserted the announcement that Lord O'Brien intended to be a member of the deputation; but if he was invited of the deputation; but if he was invited it was a downright insult to the Catheis was a downing it insult to the Catholics of Ireland, especially when for do nouncing jury packing one of their Par liamentary representatives, Mr. Mo-Hugh, is suffering six months' imprisonment, meted out to him by this same Lord O'Reice." Lord O'Brien."

OUR FRENCH CANADIAN CITI ZENS.

This week THE REGISTER gives free advertisement to a Montreal publisher out of pure regard for the French-Canadian people. It is a pity. we think, that the French Canadians are not as well studied in some parts of the Dominion as they are in other countries. The English papers, for example, are commenting at the present moment on the characteristics of the race as described by writers in The Apgle-American Magazine. The London Daily News has an interesting review of the articles, friendly and unfriendly, to the French - Canadians, appearing in the magazine named. It m' it be interesting to us here in Canada to observe how the position of Quebec in the Dominion strikes an English writer, who judges its people from what magazine writers have to say of their institutions. Following are extracts from The Daily News:

"Canada is a country where two languages exist side by side, not only by sustom but by fixed law. Fronch is not only the language of Fronch-Canadian society, not merely the language of the Canadian Catholic Church, but it is one of the languages of the Canadian Law Canadian Casholic Curren, but it is one of the languages of the Canadian Parliament. All legal proceedings in central Canada may be conducted either in French or in English, or in both. A member of the Casadian Parliament may speak in either language, and the proceedings of the Canadian Parliament are published in both. Pulitical meatings are hold in in both. Political meetings are held in both languages. The Cauadian Premier himself, Sir Wilfred Laurier, speaks equally well in either. These privileges equally well in either. These privileges are not mere causal excrescences: they are the carrying out of the terms on which the French Canadians surrendered, nearly a century and a half ago, and without which it is doubtful whether we could ever have conquered Cauada. The loyalty of French Canada, which is to the foreigner the most striking fact in the British Empire, is the direct outcome of a compromise hatmorn two come of a compromise between two races, and the statesmanlike fidelity with which we have observed and respected the feelings and beliefs of those who have consented to our rule. Respect for their language, respect for their civil law—these were the three foundations on which our forefathers who knew how to build up an empire, constructed the edifice of the Cauadian Dominion."

Commenting on a friendly article over the signature of George Lemay. The Daily News continues:

"He (Mr. Lemay) quotes a French writer, M. de Taurines, to the effect that the French language in Canada is 'infinitely better and more correct than the popular tongue in France.' He draws attention to the admirable French graws attention to the admirable French papers of Ganada—journals which are, as we can vouch, fully up to the level of the English papers. He points out that many French-Canadian authors, poets, and press writise have here personned. by the French Academy. He points to the number of statesmen that French the number of statemen that French Canada has produced—Lafontaine, Papicsau, Morin, Sir George E. Cartier, Chapleau and Lucrier. He quotes their posts—men like Frechetto and Lugendre—and their novelists—men like Sulte and Casgram. As far as America is concerned, he carries the war into the nearest country. He sales whether the enemy's country. He asks whether the pious Ca'holic of Canada is any more to be depreca'ed than the Christian Scientist of America? He draws attention to the great inflow of French-Can-adians into the United States, where adias into the Onical States, where they maintain their national traditions, and continue to speak the French langu-age. 'Rhode Island,' he says, 'elected a French-Canadian L'eutenaut Governor a resonance of the second of the second of the second of the states of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Maine. New Hamnshire and Vermont. The United States caused destroy their language or religion any more than Great Britain. And, finally, as to cleanliness—a point on which the average Englishmun is far tco ready to throw out cheep and vulgar sibes - be asks whether the cleanly little house of the French-Capalian in Quebec are not more creditable than the slume of New York. In other words he comes to the conclusion that by preserving this race along with its language and its traditions, the British Empire has not only saved itself, but has conferred an inestimable benefit upon North America by varying and despening its civilisation. Is this not a picture from which we may draw a less me in dealing with other parts of our Empire?"

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Sir Edia Ashmoad Bartlett, M.P., Is retiring from politics. There are others like him in the Unionist party who have inflicted thomselves altogether too long upon public life.

Sir Alfred Milner is to be consulted by the Imperial Government with regard to the disposal of the 25,000 Boor mon, women and children classed as prisoners of war. There have been suggestions already that these poor people be sent to Cauada and Australasia, to "work on, the Government railways." Sir Alfred Milner, by all accounts, does not love them, and it will be interesting to know what fate would be condemn them to.

The Montreal coroner's ju-that last week brought in a verdict on the espital chargo against a man named Leplaine should have added as a rider "while ere tically instue " This wretched murderer loft a silly letter, that recked of his sur feit on the modern novel. A laborer in a foundry, he still found time to feed plen tifully on so-called love stories which seem to have reduced him to a state of mental imbecility. The modern novel is an agency of the Evil One.

General Hector Macdonald, the man who enjoys an admiration quite unique in Great Britain, because he "rose from the ranks," has come out as an advocate of conscription. General Macdonald knows the army, but he may not know the country and the people. It is an extensively accepted opinion that conscription would sweep away the gates before British emigration and let the flood loose. As a preliminary, however, it would certainly prove a most unpopular policy for any Government, and the Unionists are too fond of power to risk it for the sake of the army.

A little while ago the Cauadian people expected to see the Senate abulished, But what actually happens is that, in future, each Senator will receive \$1,500 instead of \$1,000 as compensation for inflicting himself upon the country. This little Senatorial wind tall comes about by the unanimous desire of the members of the House of Commons to pay themselves one half more than the old roale of wages. The parties have been coquetting with each other since the opening of the session, the Liberals wishing the Conservatives to make the proposal and vice versa. Last week they arranged matters; and all the while the Senate had been saying noth ing. Here is a noble opportunity for the Upper Chamber to assert its independence and honor. But even independence and the other thing must have a limit.

Two facts were emphasized by the

incidents of last week's strike on the Albany street railway. In the first place militarism has already so strongly asserted itself in the United States that it supercedes the civil power on comparatively slight provocation; and once in voked, it becomes so intolerant of its brief authority that no distinction is made between peaceful citizens and an enemy in arms. The militia manued the street cars at Albany for a day, and in twelve hours two stones were thrown at the cars. These were unquestionably isolated acts; but they were answered by a deadly volley from the militia men, two of the victims being killed instantly as they sat at their doors. This deplotable contempt of the military for civil rights and human life has inspired one new idea in the public mind. It is probable that, in future, when capital and labor undertake to quarrel with each other to the peril of the general public, which on their account is subjected to military anthority, they will be treated as common street brawlers. The city of Albany gave the disputing Traction Company and their employer twenty four hours to settle their differences, otherwise the charter would be declared void. This is but the simple assertion of public right. The same thing should be done by the State when great railways and their employes paralize commerce and terrify the community. It means compulsory arbitration no doubt: but, whatever it means, it is a common-sense remedy for these constantly recurring struggles of capital and labor.

There is truth and humor in a story told by The London Chronicle about the woes of Irish police pensioners. The Chronicle recalls W. S. Gilbert's general observation that the life of the policeman is not a happy one, but add: We should be sorry, however, to think that it is really so unhappy as some of the policemen in Ireland auggest. At a public mexing of the Royal Irish Constabulary pensioners, held on Saturday in Dubliu, one of them proposed a resolution, urging a claim for increased pensions, because "from the odious and irksome duties which we were cal'ed upon to discharge from 1879 to 1890, we were estrauged from kith and kin, and earned for uarselves the undying hatred of our race. and most of our public hodies have passed a resolution not to give us any employment because our masters who paid us for the dirty work and shattered our constitutions by unnatura! duties --

sending some of us to an early grave, and others to a lingering death diontal componsate us and keep us from the workhouse."

The following resolution on the death of Abbe Verreau; passed by the Protestant Committee of the Council of Public Inspection, Quebec, is an indication of the satisfactory feeling on the part of the min ority over the school laws of the Lower Province :-" Received, that having observed with deep regret the demise of the Rev. Abbe Verreau, who, from the establishment of normal schools in this province, in the year 1857, occupied with marked success the important position of principal of the Jacques Cartier Nor mal School, the Protestant Committee of the Council of Public Instruction desires to put on record its appreciation of of the educational labours of the eminent ecclesiastic now removed from his lifelong service, to express by the transmission of this resolution to the Hon. the Superintendent of Public Instruction and to the press, its high estimate of one who, in the history of our native land, has become a recognized authority; and to offer a tribute of profound sympathy of his personal friends in their sor low at their less of an aimable and much rospected friend, whose faithfulness in duty has been a continual inspiration to his colabourers."

The London Daily Telegraph rays:-The little scene between Lord O'Brien, C.J., of Ireland, and Mr. Bodkin, K.C., of the same kingdom, was terminated rather happily by the counsel's reminder to the Chief Justice that there had been a parallel passage of a ms between one Peter O Brien and Mr Justice Keogh, at the Cork Assizes in the year 1877. Oldly enough, the career of Keogh, J., was not unlike that of O'Brien, C. J. One of the founders of the Catholic Defense Association, Keogh was a strong supporter of the popular cause and a firm friend of the tenantright movement. But he accepted office from an English Government and was never forgiven. The opinious of O'Brien, C.J., also contracted as he grew olderand the duties which no was called upon to perform as law officer of the Crown while the Coercion Act was in force were looked upon by enthusiastic politicians as inconsistent with the principles of his younger days.

Another example of the policy of one law for Englishmon and another for Irishmen is furnished in the case of Mr. McHugh, who while under sentence for libel is not allowed to write. When Mr. W. T. Stead was in jail, he was afforded every facility for working, as the following letter testifies:-To the Right Hon. the Home Secretary.

Sir-I read with with some astonishment your statement in the House of Commons last night that I was not allowed to edit and conduct The Pall Mall Gazette when in prison in December, 1885.

It is true that this is a matter which occured a long time ago, and you could not be expected to have any personal knowledge of that; but lapse of time and your own lack of information cannot alter the fact which is, that the statement above quoted as having been made by you to the House of Commons is not only inaccurate but absolutely contrary to the fact.

For the time I was made a first-class misdemeanant in November, 1885, until I left Holloway Jail in January, 1886, I continuously edited and conducted The Pall Mall Gazette, just as if I had been in my office on Northumberland street. subject only to the limitation that I was forbidden to write on the matter which led to my mearceration and that I could not receive anyone who wished to see

I have the honour to be your obedient servant .- WILLIAM T. STEAD.

A great sensation has been caused in France by the revelation of the innocence of a condemned priest, who was executed for murder in July, 1394 He was the Abbe Bruneau, and was assistant to the Cure at Eutrammes. One morning the aged Cure was foully murdered and robbed. The Abbe was arrosted, tried, and condemned. He died protesting his innocence to the silent crowds assembled at his execution, and on the scaffold handed a scaled packet to the executioner, directed to the Prooursion of the Republic. Now the housekeeper of the murdered Cure has just died at Nantes; and before her death, in the presence of witnesses, confessed that, with the help of a male accomplice of evil character, she had murdered the old priest in order to rob him. She then went to the Abbe and confessed her crime. The confession seaied his lips, and he died not only innocent, but in full knowledge of who the real culprit way. The people of Laval new demand that the contents of the scaled packet shall be revealed, and are honoring the young priest's memory as that of a mar--Jr to the confessional seal.